

PCT**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PCTP173004A	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/NL2004/000531	International filing date (day/month/year) 23/07/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 28/07/2003
Applicant VMI EPE HOLLAND B.V.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 10 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.



The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☒ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3. ☒ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 3



as suggested by the applicant.



as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.



as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

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Box No. IV Text of the abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

The invention relates to a tread (1) application device for applying a tread on a building drum (20) for a tyre, comprising a tread conveying device (15) for conveying a tread to a building drum, from a feed side (12) of the tread conveying device to a discharge side (13) of the tread conveying device in a conveyance direction, and a positioning device (14) for positioning the tread on the building drum, wherein the positioning device comprises measuring means (17) for determining the position of a segment of the tread and generating a position value, displacement means for displacing a segment of the tread with a displacement directional component parallel to the axis (21) of rotation of the building drum, and control means (28), connected to the measuring means and the displacement means, for on the basis of the position value controlling the displacement device during the application of the tread on the building drum.

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 40, 41
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 40,41

Claims 40 and 41 contravene PCT Rule 6.2 (a).

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-17

A device for conveying a strip-shaped material, comprising a main conveyor belt and auxiliary feed and discharge conveyor belts placed on both sides of the main conveyor belt, wherein two slit-shaped openings are provided, each slit-shaped opening being arranged between feed conveyor belt and discharge conveyor belt on each side of the main conveyor belt.

2. claims: 18-39

A device for conveying a tread band to a tyre building drum, comprising: a measuring device, a device for applying lateral displacement and a control unit for controlling the lateral displacement of the tread, and a method of controlling lateral displacement of the tread strip during its application onto the building drum.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B29D30/30 B29D30/58 B65H23/02 B65H20/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B29D B65H B65G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EP0-Internal, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DATABASE WPI Week 199619 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; AN 184254 XP002309733 -& JP 08 058958 A (SATO SEISAKUSHO) 5 March 1996 (1996-03-05)	1-7
Y	abstract; figures 5,1	11,12
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 0176, no. 79 (M-1527), 14 December 1993 (1993-12-14) -& JP 05 229032 A (TOYO TIRE & RUBBER CO LTD), 7 September 1993 (1993-09-07) abstract; figures 1,2	11
	----- -/-	



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

10 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

19. 04. 2005

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2 850 277 A (CLARK HAROLD H) 2 September 1958 (1958-09-02) column 2, line 72 - column 4, line 42; figures 1-3	12
A	----- US 4 386 273 A (JONES ROBERT F) 31 May 1983 (1983-05-31) column 2, line 66 - column 3, line 68; figures 1-8	1,8-11, 13
✓ A ✓	----- EP 0 844 067 A (BRIDGESTONE CORP) 27 May 1998 (1998-05-27) cited in the application figures 1-4	1-17
A	----- US 5 725 703 A (GERLOFF KLAUS) 10 March 1998 (1998-03-10) figure 1	1
A	----- GB 1 254 391 A (SVECIA SILKSCREEN MASKINER) 24 November 1971 (1971-11-24) figures 1,2	1
✓ X ✓	----- US 4 359 675 A (MILLER, III ET AL) 16 November 1982 (1982-11-16) cited in the application column 4, line 47 - column 5, line 6 column 5, line 66 - column 6, line 22 figures 1-3	18-20, 25,28, 29,36-39
X	----- WO 99/42390 A (THE GOODYEAR TIRE AND RUBBER COMPANY; ECKMAN, RAYMOND, PATRICK; BURG,) 26 August 1999 (1999-08-26) page 3, line 25 - page 4, line 19; figures 1A,1B,3	18,19, 25,28,36
✓ X	----- GB 973 972 A (DUNLOP RUBBER COMPANY LIMITED) 4 November 1964 (1964-11-04) claim 1	18,36
✓ A	----- GB 954 976 A (DUNLOP RUBBER COMPANY LIMITED) 8 April 1964 (1964-04-08) page 2, line 113 - page 3, line 56; figures 1-5	18-25, 28-30, 36-39
✓ A	----- US 2003/066610 A1 (KOLKER MARTIN ET AL) 10 April 2003 (2003-04-10) cited in the application abstract; figures 1,2a-2i	18,19, 23,24, 29-31, 35-37
✓ A	----- US 6 062 453 A (MURRAY ET AL) 16 May 2000 (2000-05-16) abstract; figures 1-3	18,19, 29,35
7	----- -/--	

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A ✓	US 4 049 486 A (HENLEY ET AL) 20 September 1977 (1977-09-20) column 1, line 49 - column 2, line 52; figures 1-8	18,31,32
A ✓	----- US 5 546 330 A (SERGEL ET AL) 13 August 1996 (1996-08-13) abstract; figures 1-4 -----	33,34

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Information on patent family members

International Application No

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International Application No

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			JP 5209739 A	20-08-1993
